

Art Unit: 1635

CPTO

K.T.

07/30/04

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

CANCEL CLAIMS 1-12

13. A method referred to as COBRA for the labelling of a set of at least two bio-organic molecules with a set of at least two colours, comprising generating said set of colours through combining ratio labelling with binary labelling.

14. A method according to claim 13, wherein the total number of distinguishable colours of said combination can, at least in the case wherein two fluorophores are simultaneously used per target, be calculated according to the formula 1

$$1: \text{No. of colours} = (n + ((r \times m) / (2 \times (n - 2)))) \times 2^r$$

wherein n is the number of fluorophores used for ratio labelling, m is the number of fluorophores used to binary label the same target, and r is the number of ratios that is resolved by ratio labelling.

with : $2 \leq n \leq \infty$,

$$0 \leq r \leq \infty$$

$$0 \leq m \leq \infty$$

15. A method according to claim 13 or claim 14, wherein at least one of said bio-organic molecules comprises nucleic acid, protein, carbohydrate and/or lipid.

Application/Control Number: 10/005,371

Page 3

Art Unit: 1635

CANCEL CLAIMS 16-23